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68th Conference of the Italian Thermal Machines Engineering Association, ATI2013

## Editorial

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The 68<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Italian Thermal Machines Engineering Association (ATI) was held in Bologna from September 11-13, 2013, at the Engineering and Architecture School of Alma Mater Studiorum Università in Bologna, Italy. Since about 70 years, ATI is a reference technical and cultural association, involving Universities and industrial companies. One of the key mission of ATI consists in spreading knowledge and organizing specific technical conferences and workshops related to the Applied Thermal Engineering. During the last edition of this Conference the Scientific Committee decided to use English as official language in order to enlarge the auditorium of this Conference and to promote exchanges between Italian Universities and Industrial Companies engaged in this field and the rest of the World, as well as to spread the research developed in Italy in Countries outside Europe and to increase connections among researchers from other Continents.

This venue has gathered 220 participants from 13 countries. During three days, 134 oral communications and 30 poster presentations have been discussed in 13 thematic sessions including Heat Transfer & Fluid dynamics, Thermal Plants, Environment, Energy and Buildings, Renewable Energy, Reciprocating Engines and Vehicles, CO<sub>2</sub> Management, Energy Recovery Systems, CHP Systems, Turbomachinery, Biomass Management, Combustors, Fuel Cells. Two special oral sessions has been devoted to the analysis of key Industrial topics jointly with the future of applied research with the involvement of local industrial managers..

This special volume of Energy Procedia collects a selection of the scientific contributions discussed during this Conference; these works give a good overview of the state-of-the art of the Italian research on Applied Thermal Engineering.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the authors for presenting their works at the Conference and in this special issue. We would also like to extend our thanks to all the members of the Scientific Committee of the Conference for the accurate review process of each paper before the presentation to the Conference and, after the Conference, for the selection of the papers for this special issue.